Dewan's reply.—Action will be taken to make the Medical Officer an official member of the T. I. C. at Padmanabhapuram in the place of the Sub-Registrar. The other points are noted.

153. Needs of Vilavankod taluk.

Mr. R. Narayana Pillai (Member, Vilavankod taluk) represented that the want of a Government hospital at Kuzhittura was very keenly felt by the whole taluk. The only medical institution in the taluk, excluding a grant-in-aid Vaidyasala, was the London Mission Hospital at Marthandom. The subject had been repeatedly brought up at previous sessions of the Assembly and the local officers were convinced of the need for a hospital. He, therefore, prayed that a hospital or a dispensary might be opened at Kuzhittura. If that was considered impossible at present, the grant to the L. M. Hospital at Marthandam might be enhanced and drugs supplied to the institution at half price. A qualified doctor experienced in surgery should also be posted there.

The Member then spoke about the construction of a road from Padanthalmudu southwards to Munchira, about 3 miles in length of which about 2 miles had already been cut. The people were prepared to cut the whole length of the road themselves and to give the land required for the purpose free of compensation. They should be supplied with the plan of the road and when it was complete, the Government should take over its maintenance.

He next requested that the standard of the English school at Kuzhittura might be raised. There was no High School any where between Nagercoil and Trivandrum. The central position of Kuzhittura eminently fitted it for a High School. The strength of the present Lower Grade school last year was 210 of which 43 passed from the third form. His request was that its standard might, for the present, be raised to Form IV and gradually brought up to Form VI. He also added that the people were too poor to provide the additional accommodation required.

Coming to Vernacular education, he said that the Higher Grade School with the Training and Manual Training classes had a strength of about 700, the major portion of whom were accommodated in temporary sheds. It was necessary that substantial buildings should be put up. Much inconvenience was also caused for lack of extensive premises. A tiffin shed and a urinal were immediately required. The school had a scavenger, but he was about to be taken away. In the interests of sanitation that should not be allowed. There was a rumour that the Training School at Kuzhittura was to be shifted to the Northern Range. The Member protested against the step for the reason that the school was serving the needs of the whole of South Travancore. He requested that class VIII might be added to the H. G. V. school at Kuzhittura. There were about seven H. G. V. Schools in the neighbourhood of Kuzhittura. The opening of class VIII in the H. G. V. School there would enable the students passing the School Leaving examination from those schools to continue their studies without going to Trivandrum where the cost of living was high.

Lastly, the Member dwelt at length on the advantages of opening an Industrial school at Kuzhittura and pleaded strongly for the location of a Police Outpost at Puthukada which harboured a number of unruly characters.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

154. Needs of the *pakuthies* comprised in Group II of the Chirayinkil taluk.

Mr. P. M. Narayana Kurup (Member, Chirayinkil taluk) represented that there were eleven *pakuthies* in the Registration Sub-District of Navaikulam of which the easternmost was Navaikulam and that the Sub-registry Office was situated at its eastern extremity. Consequently, it was from 7 to 14 miles distant from the other *pakuthies* in the Sub-District. Madavur and Pallikal *pakuthies* which lay adjoining the Navaikulam *pakuthi* were at present in the Chadayamangalam Sub-District, the Sub-Registry office being 12 to 14 miles away. On the other hand, Chirayinkil and Attungal with only a distance of 4 miles between them had each a Sub-Registry

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office. The Member submitted that a re-grouping of the *pakuthies* in each of the four Sub-Districts would save the people much trouble and proposed that Pallikal and Madavur might be added to the Navaikulam Sub-District, and the Navaikulam Sub-Registrar's Office shifted to Pallikal. He also suggested that the Sub-Registrar's Office at Chirayinkil might be shifted to Varkalai, and added that the inhabitants of Pallikal were prepared to put up a building for the Sub-Registrar's Office.

The Member next asked for the improvement of the following roads.—

1. The road from Pallikal to Velinallur. It was $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length and had been rendered cartable by the public. All that was required on the part of Government was to have a bridge constructed on the road.

2. The road from Chadayamangalam to Pallikal. Its length was about 6 miles.

3. The Kilimanur—Madavur Village road.

4. The road from Dalavapuram to Kavalayur.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

155. Needs of Trivandrum.

Mr. V. Ramakrishna Sastri B. A. & B. L. (Member, T. I. C., Trivandrum) spoke about the necessity of having a non-official President for the local Town Improvement Committee and added that it would not be difficult to find a proper person for the place. The defect of the present system of appointing Government officers as Presidents was that they were not responsible to the Committee, as they derived their power directly from Government. To ensure harmonious co-operation between the President and the members of the Committee, it was necessary that the former should be elected by the latter. Seeing that the principle had been recognised by Government and non-Official Presidents granted to certain Municipalities which were in no way superior to Trivandrum, he did not see any reason why the latter also should not have the same privilege.

The Member then thanked the Government for sanctioning the extension of drains in the town, but said that, in the interests of sanitation, the practice of constructing them piecemeal should be given up. Unless the several drains were connected with the main drain, they would discharge the filthy water and washings into the roads, causing many cess pools here and there. It was equally necessary that there should be a plentiful supply of water for flushing. Experience showed that tube wells were not sufficient for the purpose. In the case of the drains in Chalai and the Fort, flushing could not be properly done, as their gradient was not satisfactory. He requested that steps might be taken to have the defects removed.

The water supply of the town was also far from satisfactory. The chief sources of supply were the wells, the Kochar and the Karamanai river. Water in most of the wells contained organic and inorganic impurities giving rise to many diseases. The Karamanai river in summer became a series of dirty ponds where all sorts of filth accumulated. The Kochar also dried up then. In regard to the Killiyar, the refuse water from the Leper Asylum flowed into it. In view of all those circumstances, it was high time that something was done to improve the water supply of the town.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

156. Extension of the Railway to the important centres of the town of Trivandrum.

Mr. S. Ganapathi Pillai (Member, Trading Classes, Trivandrum) submitted that considerable difficulties were being experienced by the travelling public on account of the Railway Station being situated far away from the town. Under the present arrangements one train left Chakay at 6 A. M. and one arrived there at 9. 30 P. M. In either case passengers had to keep awake half the night and walk 3 or 4 miles to the station with all their luggage. Exorbitant rates had, on the other hand, to be paid by those who engaged jutkas. The difficulties were enhanced by the absence of a rest house near the station. The situation of the station far away from Chalai and other commercial centres of the town caused also not a little inconvenience to the

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